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PATENT

Attorney Docket No. 0313-0001.01 (HILL 100)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:)

Richard A. Hillstead, et al.)

Serial No.: 09/942,236)

Filed: August 29, 2001)

Group Art No.: 3731)

Examiner: Daniel J. Davis)

For: MEDICAL INSTRUMENT)

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Date of Deposit November 4, 2003

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NAME May I. Casimiro

SIGNATURE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97, Applicant hereby calls the Examiner's attention to documents listed on the attached form, which documents may be material to the examination of this application. A copy of each of the documents is enclosed herewith for the Examiner's consideration.

No inference should be drawn that any method disclosed is equivalent to the subject invention. Also, the citation of the above-discussed documents is not to be construed as an assertion

that more pertinent art could not possibly be in existence. Citation of any document herein is not to be construed as an admission that any subject matter disclosed in the document is necessarily within the inventive field of endeavor, that any disclosure is necessarily prior in time to a particular date which may be relevant to the instant patent application, and/or that any disclosure is otherwise necessarily prior art with respect to the instant invention.

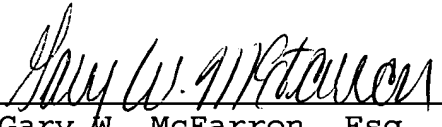
Applicant also respectfully reserves the right to later set forth how the instant invention is distinguished over the disclosure of any document or other art, including the disclosure of those documents discussed herein, that may be cited by the Examiner in rejecting a claim in the present patent application.

No item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the best knowledge of the person signing this certification, after making reasonable inquiry of the related files, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

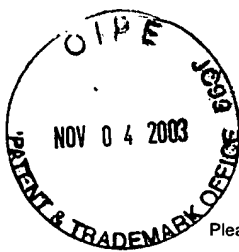
Accordingly, it is believed that no additional fee is required for the submission of this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement. However, should an additional fee be required, authorization is hereby given to charge Deposit Account 50-1039. (A duplicate of this document is enclosed herewith.)

Respectfully submitted,

Date: November 4, 2003

By: 
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11-5-03

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PTO/SB/21 (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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TRANSMITTAL FORM <i>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)</i>	Application Number	09/942,236
	Filing Date	August 29, 2001
	First Named Inventor	Hillstead, et al.
	Group Art Unit	3731
	Examiner Name	Daniel J. Davis
	Attorney Docket Number	0313-0001.01 (formerly HILL 100)
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	*	

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SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT	
Firm or Individual name	Cook, Alex, McFarron, Manzo, Cummings & Mehler, Ltd. Gary W. McFarron, Esq. (Reg. No. 27, 357)
Signature	<i>Gary W. McFarron</i>
Date	November 4, 2003

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Signature	<i>May I. Casimiro</i>	Date	November 4, 2003

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NAME May I. Casimiro

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3. PTO/SB/08A (1 sheet);
4. 2 U.S. Patents;
5. Certificate of Mailing (1 sheet); and
6. Return Receipt Postcard.

Name: May I. Casimiro

Signature: *May I. Casimiro*